

# The Nashville Patriot.

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# NASHVILLE:

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1857.

American Candidate for Congress in the 8th District.

Our neighbor of the Banner publishes a call, signed by a hundred names from Montgomery county, for a Convention to nominate an American candidate for Congress in this district. We cannot but feel regret at this movement. One Convention having already been held; an exciting contest, having been passed through; there being now but one name before our friends; we do not see the necessity for, or the safety in, inviting a renewed contest, tending, as all contests among political friends do, to impair our general strength, in the face of an ever vigilant and restless enemy, who are now preparing to place in the field one of their very strongest men. Gen. Zollicoffer, who has once submitted his name to a Convention, has no satisfactory representation of the district that we have heard no complaint against him—he is now a candidate for re-election, and is the only American candidate before the district. Why bring out opposition? Questions arising before the recent Convention having no connection with the names of aspirants before it, produced such apprehensions of danger, should a contest take place in it, that, before the Convention met, for the sake of unity and harmony, that contest was avoided by the withdrawal of the names of candidates for the nomination, and a nomination was made by acclamation—carefully avoiding all contest. When that nominee declined, it was believed, on all hands, that there would be danger in calling a second convention before which the same exciting questions, rendering the first inoperative and hazardous, were still undisturbed. Indeed, a proposition to postpone that Convention to a later day, was, for that reason, declined. That danger, in our apprehension, is now greater than at first. If the pending conflict could be otherwise removed, was it not the safest course to apply to other means? Another course has been pursued. The other gentlemen, whose names had been discussed, have declined, and Gen. Zollicoffer is the only candidate in the field. Why should another, at this late day, be brought out, and a renewed struggle and division commenced? No doubt a portion of our friends prefer another, or others, to Gen. Zollicoffer; but there is no man in the district of whom this might not be said. Gen. Zollicoffer's friends once yielded their preferences for the sake of harmony to a favorite son of Montgomery—they also yielded, in a spirit of compromise, upon those questions connected with the basis of representation which rendered the first Convention inoperative. They had asked that a basis, almost identical with that since adopted by the American State Convention, be adopted; and it was refused. They then agreed to assent to any basis which might be designated, provided it was made uniform in the different counties of the district; which was also refused. They then proposed that each county should have votes in Convention in proportion either to the number of its whole voting population, or its whole American vote, giving to Montgomery, and other counties, one vote for every hundred voters, and to Davidson county one vote for every hundred and twenty-five voters—in other words, giving to Montgomery twenty-five votes advantage in every hundred. This also was refused! When told that others desired that the vote should be taken by civil districts, Gen. Zollicoffer's friends assented cheerfully, only conditioning that each civil district should be allowed to vote its own known sentiments, as reflected through its delegates, and that the eight wards of Nashville (much more populous than any eight civil districts,) should be allowed to vote as civil districts—they all ways heretofore having claimed it in all conventions, whether State, district or county. These two conditions being also refused, there could be no agreement; and the convention was therefore inoperative. And yet, it is now proposed to hold another convention; all these details being unaltered. We should certainly bear and forbear with each other. There never was a more important struggle than is now commenced in Tennessee. But, the facts before us persuade us that it is a great mistake to renew the struggle among ourselves by plunging into another convention contest. We believe Gen. Zollicoffer is the choice of a large majority of our political friends, and this belief is based upon careful inquiry. The hearts of the great masses are with him. We will not venture to make an assertion for Robertson, Dickson and Stewart counties; but we may be indulged in saying, in the language of our contemporary in the Banner, that "our friends in Davidson, with almost, if not entire unanimity, are of the opinion that the most effectual way to get rid of the embarrassments arising from the declination of Maj. Henry, is to unite in giving to the distinguished gentleman now in the field a vigorous support." We can but trust that each of our friends in Montgomery as ask for a convention, will carefully and dispassionately consider all the circumstances, and spare the party in this district an internecine conflict, the result of which is greatly to be apprehended, by every one who desires the success of the American cause.

Col. Benjamin F. Holmes has been nominated as the American and Whig candidate for the House of Representatives from Gibson county.

Mr. Isaac J. Roach has received the nomination for Whig nomination for the Senate in the district composed of Gibson, Dyer and Carroll. Mr. Roach is no stranger to the legislature of Tennessee, having heretofore served in that body with honor to himself and State.

A new explosive compound has been patented, consisting of niter and saltpetre saturated and coated with a mixture of gunpowder, sulphate of potash and powdered charcoal. It is tested one pound of it, at a price of half the amount of gunpowder, possesses an amount of explosive force equal to three pounds of gunpowder. A great additional advantage also characterizes it, its exploding with very little smoke.

# NEW BOOKS.

Life of "Fanny" Ware, Chief of the "Chinese" Insurrection.

By J. M. Mackay, author of "Conqueror of the Pacific," "Life of Schuyler," etc., New York: Dix, Edwards & Co.

This History of China is involved in the deepest mystery. The occasional glimpses which we obtain, only serve to make the gloom which overhangs it, the more profound. The exclusive, non-intercourse policy of that Empire, has precluded the rest of the world from any intimate knowledge of even the present state of the great mass of the people. Under the liberalizing influences of the Christian missionary, a brighter dawn seems to be breaking upon this Eastern world. The subject of the volume before us, is the most extraordinary man who has flourished in China, since the days of Confucius. If he does not succeed in all his aims, he will have done a great work for his people. His biography, as connected with the Insurrection, of which he is the head, and embodying much of the religious and social habits of the Chinese, cannot but prove interesting to a large circle of readers.

For the best of the year, the first prize of \$100 and the second of \$50.

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